

The Daily Tar Heel

Serving the students and the University community since 1893



Rejoice!

Legislators celebrate the session's adjournment.
See Page 3



Happy Holidays!

The Daily Tar Heel office will close at 5 p.m. today and will reopen Jan. 4. Have a safe and relaxing vacation

No. 1 in Sight

An unbeaten women's soccer team faces Portland next.
See Page 9

Weather

Today: Partly Cloudy; H 74, L 50
Saturday: Showers; H 63, L 35
Sunday: Sunny; H 52, L 29



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Friday, December 7, 2001

Legislators Call for Study of BOG Structure

By ELYSE ASHBURN
Staff Writer

RALEIGH — On the last day of the legislative session, the N.C. General Assembly passed two pieces of legislation that could alter the structure of the UNC-system Board of Governors.

A legislative bill that will remove minority quotas from the BOG election policy passed both chambers Thursday.

Currently, at least two women, two members of a minority race, and two members of the minority political party

must be elected to the BOG every four years.

Sen. Tony Rand, D-Cumberland, said the quotas were constitutionally suspect and that the amendment will make the BOG election process legal.

Senate President Pro Tem Marc Basnight, D-Dare, said abolishing the quotas probably will not diminish minority representation on the BOG. "It's not going to damage that kind of representation," Basnight said. "It would probably enhance it."

Another piece of legislation passed

Thursday mandates a legislative commission to study the structure of the BOG. The study has the potential to initiate changes in the composition and function of the BOG.

The commission's 10 members will be appointed by Basnight and House Speaker Jim Black, D-Mecklenburg.

The legislation was amended Thursday to call only for a study of four structural aspects of the BOG — how members are elected, the size of the board and length and number of terms allowed. Previously, the legislation would have

called for a more sweeping study of the board's powers and effectiveness.

In recent weeks, some UNC-system leaders have voiced opposition to the study, complaining it is poorly timed.

But Sen. David Weinstein, D-Robeson, said the study is necessary and is not a threat to BOG members. "Every board needs a review every four to five years," he said. He added that if there are deficiencies in the function of the BOG they need to be detected.

Proponents of the study bill have said they wanted to examine if the structure

of the BOG hindered the UNC system's two flagship universities — UNC-Chapel Hill and N.C. State University.

Sen. Howard Lee, D-Orange, said he favored the study because the flagships have dropped in national rankings recently. "I, along with other people, have had growing concerns about the standing of our flagship universities," he said.

Lee said the purpose of the study is not to disband the BOG but to examine whether it is properly structured.

See STUDY BILL, Page 6

U.S. Still Refuses to Negotiate

British Prime Minister Tony Blair says the final collapse of the Taliban is quickly approaching as anticipated.

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — The Taliban agreed Thursday to surrender Kandahar, their last bastion and birthplace, if their warriors were not punished and safety was guaranteed to leader Mullah Mohammed Omar, who once vowed to fight to the death. America said it would not accept any deal allowing the cleric to go free.

The promise to give up the city and begin handing over weapons as early as Friday marked the final collapse of the militant movement that imposed strict Islamic rule on Afghanistan for five years.

Personal rivalries among anti-Taliban leaders and the fate of Omar still could wreck the fragile agreement. The head of the new Afghan transition government, Hamid Karzai, refused to say whether Omar would be arrested as Washington, D.C., has demanded.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said the United States would not stand for any agreement that lets the Taliban leader go free.

Pakistani intelligence officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said radio intercepts had picked up no communications by Omar in three days and that he appeared to have lost contact with senior Taliban commanders.

"It seems that the final collapse of the Taliban is now upon us," said British Prime Minister Tony Blair, President Bush's closest ally in the war. "That is a total vindication of the strategy that we have worked out from the beginning."

The murky surrender pact made no mention of Osama bin Laden, accused of masterminding the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, and left unclear the fate of hundreds of Arabs, Pakistanis, Chechens and other foreign fighters of his al-Qaida terrorist network.

After briefing members of the Senate on the situation in Afghanistan, Rumsfeld was asked what the United States would like to do with Omar.

"We would prefer to have Omar," Rumsfeld replied. He said "There's still a good deal of confusion" about the surrender.

Karzai, however, said the United States had not been consulted. "This is an Afghan question," he told the BBC. In eastern Afghanistan, meanwhile, B-52s hammered suspected mountain hide-outs of bin Laden and his fighters. About 1,500 anti-Taliban forces have been attacking the region around the Tora Bora compound for two days.

In Washington, U.S. officials said al-Qaida fighters are believed to be operating from five to 10 cave complexes at

See ATTACK, Page 6

University's Mission: Benefit State ... and Qatar?

By LIZZIE BREYER
University Editor

It has been repeated so often it has almost become a mantra. "The mission of the University is to serve all the people of the State."

This part of the University's mission statement is constantly cited to explain why UNC is different from other public and private schools nationwide.

But UNC's mission goes far beyond just service to the state, outlining ways for the University to teach its students and providing a framework for the campus climate.

The proposal for a UNC business school campus in Doha, Qatar, has led many students, faculty and officials to question the mission of the University, both how it has changed over the years and how this program might serve it.

The Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development approached UNC this summer to ask it to establish a satellite campus in Doha, offering to pick up the full operating costs of the program.

Chancellor James Moeser is expected to make a decision about the program before the end of the calendar year.

Officials have said there are several areas in which they want to ensure that the University's mission is adequately represented abroad and that its interests are served in every institution that bears UNC's name — even in a small and distant Middle Eastern nation.

Intellectual Freedom

One of the most prominent sections of UNC's mission reads, "The University exists to teach students at all levels in an environment of ... free inquiry."

And this part of the mission is so important that it's not just mentioned once. The mission also states, "To fulfill this mission, the University must provide high-quality undergraduate instruction to students ... while committed to intellectual freedom."

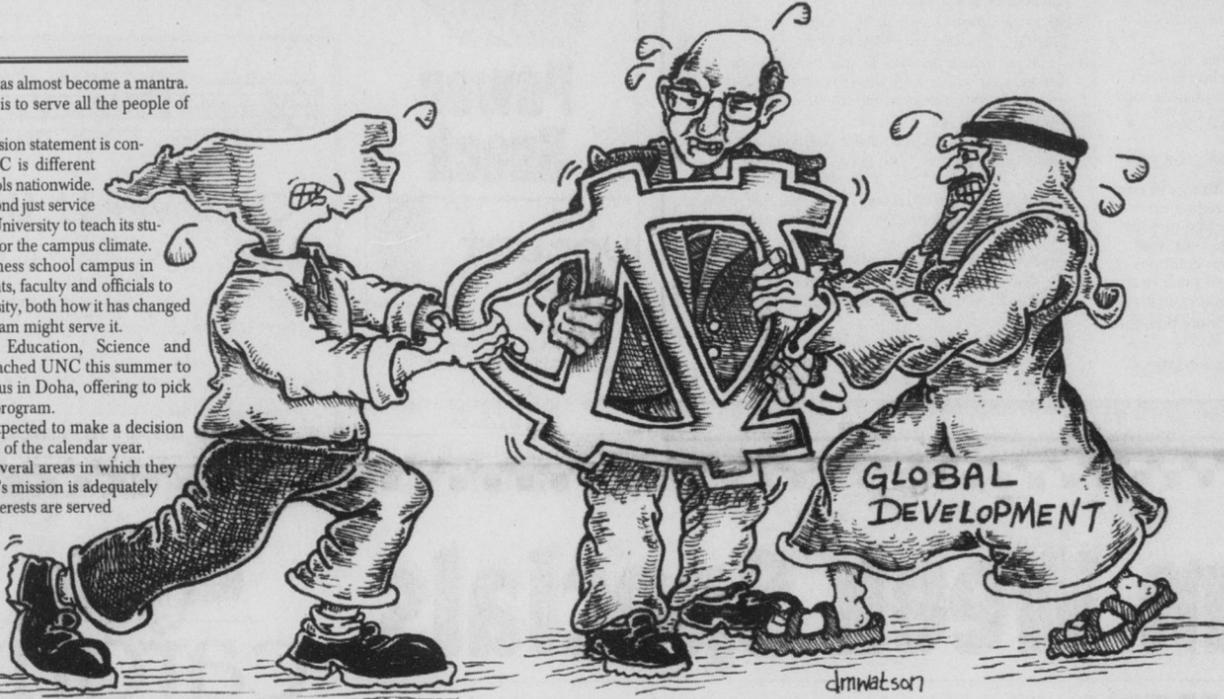
In keeping with that emphasis on academic freedom, many students, faculty and officials have raised concerns about whether faculty will have the freedom to teach what they want, especially regarding the expression of diverse religious, sexual and cultural viewpoints, which often are stifled in the Middle Eastern nation.

Sue Estroff, chairwoman of the Faculty Council, said she has been concerned about the issue of academic freedom since the Qatar program first was proposed. "We've pushed on this issue and asked very specific, pointed questions. But how it will play out in the classroom, no one can really answer yet," she said. "I think we all have the best intentions, but we have to understand we're going into a very hierarchical monarchy, which although it is fond of democracy, is not a democracy yet."

But administrators have consistently assured faculty and students not to worry. Moeser also has stated publicly that one of the conditions on which he will base his acceptance of the proposal is the degree to which University officials will be allowed to determine the curriculum.

Provost Robert Shelton said that although faculty will be able to teach what they want to, there likely will be less dissent outside the classroom and less opportunities for student activists to voice opposition. "Will there be David Horowitz speaking on campus with protesters in the quad? Certainly not," he said.

See MISSION, Page 6



Some critics have expressed concern that the Qatar program is not in line with the University mission to serve the state, although UNC officials have emphasized aspects of the program that enhance educational opportunities for N.C. residents.

Qatar Decision Up to Chancellor Moeser Alone

UNC-CH



A three-day series examining UNC's possible involvement in Qatar

■ Wednesday: Middle Eastern Relations
■ Thursday: Intangible Costs
■ Today: UNC's Mission and the Decision-Making Process

By STEPHANIE HORVATH
Assistant University Editor

While the proposal to establish a business school in Qatar could affect multiple segments of the University community, the decision rests with one man — Chancellor James Moeser.

"I have no idea whether we will ultimately move forward with this," Moeser said in an interview Monday. "I don't want to put a percentage on the chances — I would say slightly better than half."

Although many campus decisions must be approved by both the UNC-Chapel Hill Board of Trustees and the UNC-system Board of Governors, these bodies have no role in the Qatar decision.

BOT Chairman Tim Burnett said the the Qatar proposal decision is a purely administrative one and therefore is outside

the BOT's jurisdiction. "I just think the BOT has an assigned set of responsibilities, and this is not one of them," he said.

Neither the BOT nor the BOG has a role in the decision because a satellite campus is not classified as the creation of a new degree program, said UNC-system Gretchen Bataille, vice president for academic affairs.

But Moeser said he still wants outside approval, even though neither body is forced to give it. "Legally, it is not required — but clearly I wouldn't want to move forward if I felt there was opposition, especially from the BOT level," Moeser said.

Moeser said he also wants input from the student body, mainly from a seminar on Qatar organized by student government. "Being viable members of this community, it is important to hear what students have to say," said Student Body

President Justin Young. Young said he is not sure how much student input will factor into the decision, but Moeser said he is interested in the comments generated.

"The good news is no decision will be made by the time the seminar is finished," Moeser said. "I am fascinated by what students have to say."

But Young said Moeser has not always seemed willing to listen. "Initially it appeared the chancellor was a little resistant to hearing the student perspective," Young said.

The decision Moeser is facing mirrors one that former Chancellor Michael Hooker wrestled with five years ago. In 1996, UNC-CH was approached by a private organization in Indonesia about establishing a campus in the Asian nation.

See DECISION, Page 6

Survey Results May Not Settle Issue

By RUTHIE WARSHENBROT
Staff Writer

The preliminary results of a survey on night parking will not be a determining factor in the Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee's decision on the issue, officials said Thursday.

The online survey, which was created by the Department of Public Safety and sent out to students, faculty and staff Nov. 30,

had 9,034 responses as of Tuesday. The preliminary results were given on Tuesday to members of TPAC, which is considering whether to charge for parking on campus at night.

The final decision probably will be made in February, although officials said the timetable is still far from certain.

Cheryl Stout, assistant director of parking services, said the survey was released mainly to determine who is driving to campus at night, why they are coming and where they are parking. "I don't believe that this is a decision-making tool as much as it is an informational tool."

Derek Poarch, director of DPS, said he has not interpreted the results of the survey. He said it is too early to analyze the data because the results are preliminary.

Stout said DPS will accept responses to the survey until next Friday.

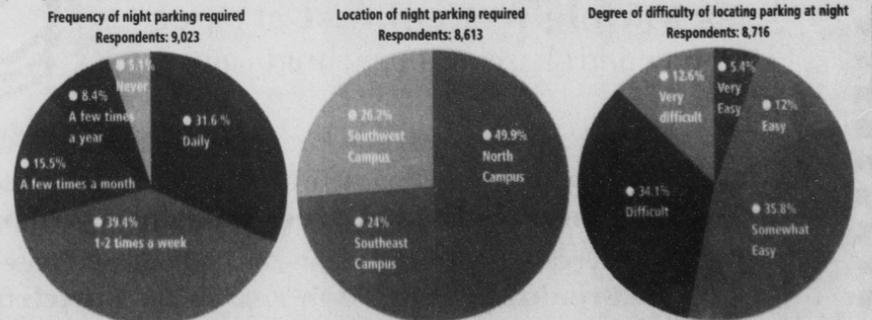
Student Body President Justin Young said he still needs to digest the survey's results, but he said he is not convinced of their accuracy. Young has expressed concern about respondents' abilities to submit the survey more than once.

He also said he is worried about the

See SURVEY, Page 6

After Hours

Officials at the Department of Public Safety conducted an online survey from Nov. 30 to Tuesday to gauge student, faculty and staff needs for parking after 5 p.m. on campus. The results of the 9,034 responses received were forwarded to the Transportation and Parking Advisory Committee.



Nothing is more difficult, and therefore more precious, than to be able to decide.

Napoleon I